

Pay-as-you-go Considerations: The bill contains several provisions that affect direct spending and revenues; however, the net impact is estimated to be less than \$500,000 a year.

Intergovernmental and Private-Sector Impact: Section 4 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) excludes from the application of that act any provisions that are necessary for the national security or the ratification or implementation of international treaty obligations. CBO has determined that the provisions in title VI of S. 886 either fall within that exclusion or contain no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates. All other titles of the bill contain no private-sector or intergovernmental mandates and would have no significant effects on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimate Prepared by: Federal Costs: Sunita D'Monte and Joseph C. Whitehill (226-2840) for the Department of State; Gary Brown (226-2860) for the International Boundary and Water Commission; Eric Rollins (226-2820) for retirement benefits; and Jennifer Winkler (226-2880) for employee compensation.

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Leo Lex (225-3220).

Impact on the Private Sector: Keith Mattrick (226-2940).

Estimate Approved by: Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I have ascertained that none of the Senators on the other side will be available this afternoon to offer their amendments or to discuss them. Since there is no Member here, or no amendment pending by anybody on this side, I think it would be an exercise in futility to continue to suggest quorum calls.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, June 17, 1999, the federal debt stood at \$5,585,233,665,272.21 (Five trillion, five hundred eighty-five billion, two hundred thirty-three million, six hundred sixty-five thousand, two hundred seventy-two dollars and twenty-one cents).

One year ago, June 17, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,491,718,000,000 (Five trillion, four hundred ninety-one billion, seven hundred eighteen million dollars).

Five years ago, June 17, 1994, the federal debt stood at \$4,491,908,000,000 (Four trillion, four hundred ninety-one billion, nine hundred eight million dollars) which reflects a debt increase of 1,093,325,665,272.21 (One trillion, ninety-three billion, three hundred twenty five million, six hundred sixty-five thousand, two hundred seventy dollars and twenty-one cents) during the past 5 years.

RECYCLING PROVISION OF SUPERFUND

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, 1 year ago the distinguished minority leader, Mr. DASCHLE, and I introduced S. 2180, the Superfund Recycling Equity Act, to overcome the unintended consequences of Superfund which continue to have major negative impacts on recycling. There is widespread recognition of the need for relief in this area, as evidenced by the number of Superfund bills that have been introduced since the 103d Congress, as well as the measures being considered in this Congress, all of which include nearly identical recycling relief provisions.

I am grateful for the decision by Senators CHAFEE and SMITH to include a strong recycling provision in their Superfund reform bill currently pending before the Environment and Public Works Committee. This inclusion was an important contributing reason to my decision to be an original cosponsor of the Superfund Program Completion Act of 1999 (S. 1090). As the committee approaches a markup of its legislation, I understand that the committee chairman and subcommittee chairman are negotiating with their minority counterparts and the Environmental Protection Agency in an effort to reach a bipartisan consensus. In the spirit of the last year's Superfund Recycling Equity Act, which collected 63 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle, I endorse such an approach and look forward to debating the bill on the Senate floor.

Today, I am pleased to join the minority leader in bringing to the attention of the Senate the need to move expeditiously in this regard, recognizing that another year has passed without needed relief for recyclers.

Mr. DASCHLE. The distinguished majority leader is correct in noting the attention of many bills directed at Superfund relief for recyclers in this session, the bipartisan interest in this subject, and the broad based, bicameral commitment directed to correcting these unintended consequences. The Superfund Litigation Reduction and Brownfields Cleanup Act of 1999 (S. 1105), introduced by Senators BAUCUS, LAUTENBERG, LINCOLN, and me, contains a provision similar to the distinguished majority leader's and my bill, S. 2180, introduced in this body 1 year ago.

Mr. LOTT. I have worked for years with my colleagues to reform Superfund. We must put this important program back on track to get the environment cleaned up effectively and efficiently, with polluters paying the bills, not innocent parties. There was clear tangible evidence of how Superfund is off track in a recent GAO report which was requested by House Commerce Committee Chairman BILEY. The GAO report revealed that a majority of the funds go for activities other than clean up, and this is clearly wrong. I hope the Senate will act soon because America deserves a viable Superfund program.

While there are different bills being considered in the Senate at this time, both the minority leader and I stand committed to Superfund relief for recyclables and we assure all Senators that the differences between the bills in their recycling language will be addressed in the interest of moving forward with this needed legislation. With the bipartisan support of this needed relief in place, Mr. President, it is essential to stress that relief for recycling, an issue of fundamental fairness, must be accomplished in this session.

Mr. DASCHLE. Along with my Senate colleagues, I have worked for years to reform Superfund, and by all accounts the program has been vastly improved over the past 6 years. Today, I reaffirm my commitment to work with the majority leader to ensure passage of needed Superfund relief for recyclables in this session and urge passage of a recycling bill.

Mr. LOTT. In this regard, I applaud the efforts of Chairman SHUSTER and BOEHLERT, who have worked tirelessly with their very competent staffs to help resolve the one significant remaining issue in contention.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a copy of a recently negotiated and signed agreement dealing with paper scrap by all the affected parties.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INSTITUTE OF SCRAP
RECYCLING INDUSTRIES, INC.,
Washington, DC, June 15, 1999.

Hon. TRENT LOTT,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. TOM DASCHLE,
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate.

Hon. JOHN H. CHAFEE,
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Hon. MAX S. BAUCUS,
Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Hon. ROBERT C. SMITH,
Chairman, Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment Subcommittee.

Hon. FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
Ranking Minority Member, Superfund, Waste Control, and Risk Assessment Subcommittee.

Hon. TED STEVENS.

Hon. BLANCHE LINCOLN.

DEAR SENATORS LOTT, DASCHLE, CHAFEE, BAUCUS, SMITH, LAUTENBERG, STEVENS, AND LINCOLN: We, the undersigned representatives of our respective entities, are writing to express our agreement with the attached consensus recycling amendment to the "Superfund Program Completion Act of 1999" (S. 1090), and the "Superfund Litigation Reduction and Brownfield Cleanup Act of 1999" (S. 1105). This amendment has been negotiated over the last two months and reflects a compromise that we find to be both reasonable and functional. None of us will seek, or encourage others to seek, amendments that would undermine the compromise we have reached. We are satisfied with the legislative language we have labored so long to craft and intend that this language be used in any legislative vehicle that addresses recycling issues in either House of Congress.

In closing, we would like to thank you for your patience as we worked to remove one of the longstanding obstacles to meaningful